

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 00825 060715Z

12

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 IO-10 SAM-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /083 W

----- 049490

R 051704Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1000

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USCINCEUR

USUN NY 460

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 825

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, SP, MO

SUBJECT: INITIAL SPANISH REACTION TO MOROCCAN CLAIMS
TO PRESIDIOS

1. MOROCCAN REQUEST TO UN TO DECLARE SPANISH PRESIDIOS
ON NORTH AFRICAN COAST NONSELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES HAS
BEEN RECEIVED WITH SURPRISE, ALARM AND NEAR UNANIMOUS
INDIGNATION IN SPANISH MEDIA AND OFFICIAL CIRCLES. UN
CORRESPONDENT OF NATIONAL MOVEMENT DAILY "ARRIBA"
CHARACTERIZED MOROCCAN MOVE AS "AUDACIOUS GESTURE,
INCONCEIVABLE IN MODERN HISTORY." LIBERAL AFTERNOON
MADRID DAILY "INFORMACIONES" CALLS MOROCCAN MOVE A NEW
"ESCALATION", CONSIDERING IT ONE MORE MANEUVER IN THE
"MOROCCAN CHESS GAME OF ADVANCING DEMAND AFTER DEMAND".

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 00825 060715Z

2. EDITORIAL COMMENT IN SEVERAL PAPERS SPECULATED THAT

MOVE WAS ONE MORE EFFORT BY HASSAN TO SAVE HIS
DETERIORATING INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION OR PROMOTE
HIS INTERNATIONAL STATUS. WHILE CONFIDENT GOS WOULD
RESPOND EFFECTIVELY TO MOROCCAN CLAIM, EDITORIAL IN
CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC "YA" ADMITS THAT MOROCCO HAS
RAISED ISSUE AT GOOD PSYCHOLOGICAL MOMENT IN VIEW OF
THIRD WORLD DOMINATION OF UN AND ITS SUPPORT FOR
DECOLONIZATION. FOLLOW-UP FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL IN
"ARRIBA" RECALLS MOROCCAN PERFIDIES TOWARD SPAIN SINCE
1956 INDEPENDENCE, SEEING CLAIM TO PRESIDIOS AS
DEMAGOGIC EFFORT BY HASSAN TO OUT-MANEUVER INTERNAL
OPPOSITION OR TO APPEAL TO INTERNATIONAL GALLERIES.
"ARRIBA" CONCLUDES THAT FOR SPAIN, CEUTA, AND MELILLA
ARE "SACRED"--EVEN THOUGH UN MAY ORDER OTHERWISE.

3. SEVERAL MAJOR DAILIES CARRIED BACKGROUND ARTICLES
ON PROBABLE PROCEDURES IN UN COMMITTEE OF 24 AND
SPECULATIVE ARTICLES ON LIKELY GOS TACTICS AT UN.
PRESS ALSO CARRIED BACKGROUNDERS DETAILING HISTORICAL
BASIS OF SPAIN'S POSSESSION OF PRESIDIOS AND STRESSING
THEIR FULLY SPANISH CHARACTER.

4. CORTES DEPUTY INTERRUPTED NORMAL DEBATES TO
INTRODUCE INFORMAL RESOLUTION TAKING NOTE OF HASSAN'S
CLAIMS TO THE ENTIRELY SPANISH CITIES OF CEUTA-MELLILLA.
RESOLUTION AFFIRMS SPAIN'S ADHESION TO CEUTA-MELILLA,
AND APPEALS FOR THE RESTORATION OF SPAIN OF "THE
SPANISH CITY" OF GIBRALTAR. MFA OFFICIAL TOLD AN EMBOFF
THAT FOREIGN MINISTER AND UNDER SECRETARY AND OTHERS
HAD HAD URGENT HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON SAHARA AND NORTH
AFRICA AFTERNOON OF FEB 4 BUT GAVE NO INDICATION
OF DECISIONS ADOPTED. MFR OFFICIAL COMMENTED THAT
MOROCCAN STEP RAISES GRAVE PROBLEM WHICH WILL
REQUIRE MORE "ENERGETIC" SPANISH RESPONSES THAN IN THE
PAST. HE ADDED THAT MOROCCANS WERE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE
THIS BOLD STEP BY WHAT THEY INTERPRETED AS "SIGNS
OF SUPPORT OF BIG POWERS", INCLUDING SUPPORT AT UNGA
AND US DECISION TO SELL THEM ARMS AT CRITICAL POINT
DURING DISPUTE WITH SPAIN OVER SAHARA.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MADRID 00825 060715Z

5. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH ATTACHES FOLLOWING
MOROCCAN MOVE, SPANISH MILITARY OFFICERS GENERALLY
STRESSED POINT THAT, UNLIKE SAHARA, PRESIDIOS ARE
INALIENABLE PART OF SPAIN. THEY ADDED THAT SPAIN
INTENDS TO WITHDRAW FROM SAHARA BUT THAT IT WILL NEVER
WITHDRAW FROM SPANISH ENCLAVES.
EATON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, DEPENDENCY POLICIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, UNGA RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRID00825
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750043-0423
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750270/aaaadliy.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <15 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INITIAL SPANISH REACTION TO MOROCCAN CLAIMS TO PRESIDIOS
TAGS: PBOR, SP, MO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006